THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1888.

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#### Tilden's Day.

The birthday of Mr. TILDEN will be celebrated to-day by Democratic associations and gatherings in various parts of the country. Less than two years have passed since his death, but it is already evident that the anniversary of his birth is to be like JEFFERson's and like Jackson's, a saint's day of the Democracy.

As JEFFERSON asserted against Federalism, against the aristocratic ideas of HAMIL-TON, and against English precedent and influence, the broad and vital principles of government by the people; as Jackson renewed and reënforced those principles, and made them effective against moneyed monopoly; so did TILDEN bring them back into practice and show that, in spite of the demoralization produced by civil war and Republican rule, the nation was still willing to revert to the local self-government, and the honesty, economy, and strict regard for the Constitution that marked the most glorious days of the older Democracy.

The monstrous crime against free institutions, which deprived the whole country of the benefit of the wise reforms and that relentless integrity and unerring political judgment which characterized Mr. Til-DEN'S administration while Governor of New York, has not narrowed his fame or lessened the estimation in which he is held; but the contrary. He was the leader of the Democracy until the end of his life. The principles and the policies and the methods which he believed in, cannot be deviated from without the chastening consequences of disaster.

The lesson from Mr. TILDEN'S career, of which his party seems now to stand in most need, is the importance of comprehensive and effective party government.

There are leaders possessing something of his genius, and capable of worthily imitating his success; and there are others less capable, or else out of sympathy with the intrinsic methods and purposes of his political philosophy. It is for the masses of intelligent and patriotic Democrats to choose between them: and the discourses and reflections of his birthday should be such as to aid in choosing to the best advantage.

#### The Truth of History.

We read with interest the columns of our esteemed contemporary, the Troy Press; but we have at last found there an expression with which it is impossible to wholly agree: "Lipools was a great man, and so was GRINT."

About Mr. LINCOLN this is entirely true; but about Gen. GRANT it is only partly true. He had many admirable qualities, and in subduing the rebellion he did great things which will not be forgotten; but he was probably the worst President that the United States has ever had. His disregard of the principles of personal liberty and personal honor was extreme; jobs abounded and corruption flourished under him as it never flourished before; and we trust in GoD that it will never flourish so again. Think of Boss SHEPHERD'S swindles, of the Whiskey Ring, and of Rongson's stealings in the navy! And President

GRANT protected and encouraged it all. He was a great and a fortunate soldier, but a great man he was not.

#### A Dangerous Neighbor.

Nothing could be more gratifying than the returns received by the Inter-State Commerce Commission from the various railroads of the country, and indicating their prompt and universal compliance with the terms of the Inter-State act. The general inference which may be drawn from these reports is that the railroads of the entire country have conformed to its regulations and that our railroad system has profited by Federal regulation in a degree which is as gratifying as it was unexpected.

The feature of the Inter-State Commerce enactment which above all things commends It to the general approval of the public, as well as to investors in railroad securities, is the publicity of rates which it entails. Publicity of rates is an impregnable guarantee that the earnings of the railroads are no longer being divided between shippers and corrupt railroad officials in the form of rebates and concessions for mutual benefit and that they will hereafter accrue to the stockholders. It is, unfortunately, too true that in many instances railroads have been the victims of collusion between corrupt managers and corrupt shippers. Revenues of considerable magnitude that have heretofore been diverted to private pockets now appear daily in the newspapers under the welcome and unwonted heading of increases in gross earnings. Reviewing the practices in the line of rebates on many important American railroads during the last twenty years, and noting the great monopolies that have sprung into existence simultaneously with the acquisition of enormous private fortunes by the men who run the railroads, it is not surprising that that eminent litigant, Mr. JAMES McHENRY, should have accused certain railroads of running what he called "ghost trains"that is, trains which never appeared in the schedules of the roads, and whose earnings never went into the balance sheet, but wer divided between the shippers and the officials

But if the Inter-State Commerce law is to be permitted to assume the aspect of a Federal act, conceived and executed in the interest of Canadian railroads, bankrupt and political, then it were better that it had never been enacted. It is perhaps an alarmist view that should lead any one to apprehend that Congress will not act promptly in the matter, and so reenforce the Inter-State Commerce law by effective legislation that to comply with its provis ions will not entail ruin on the American railroad, and at the same time confer pros perity upon its rival across the Canadian But Congress cannot move too quickly in the matter. Let the Canadian railroads confine their industries to their own territory, where they belong; they are built with English capital, and with the mency of the Canadian Government; they

are bankrupt on the one hand, and are sustained by Government subvention for political purposes on the other; and it will not do for the Congress of the United States to dower them with letters of marque to prey upon American commerce.

Has Bismarck Abandoned Turkey?

The allusions to the Eastern question in BISMARCK's great speech have naturally been weighed and scrutinized with peculiar interest in London, Vienna, and Buda-Pesth. Every word he uttered on the subject must be scanned with even keener anxiety in Constantinople, for were it possible to ascertain his real meaning, the fate of European Turkey might be easily foretold. Never, indeed, has even the Chancellor, with whom bluntness is a virtue, been to all appearances more thoroughly sincere than in the declaration that Germany would never plunge all Europe into war for the purpose of protecting the Bulgarians from Russian ascendancy. But they who are most deeply concerned to consider the consequences of such abstention will find themselves confronted by these alternatives; either Austria will be left to fight single-handed or with only Italy's assistance to save the Balkan peninsula, or else the Vienna Government will be morally constrained to arrange with Russia for an amicable partition of the Sultan's European There was nothing ambiguous in Brs-

MARCK'S language on the fundamental point. He regards all that has happened at Sofia and Philippoplis, since Prince ALEXAN-DER'S annexation of Eastern Roumelia, a revolutionary and distinctly counter to the Berlin treaty. He is willing to see the former state of things restored, that is to say, a protégé of Russia reigning at Sofia, with pro-Russian officials in the civil administration, and Russian officers in control of the army. But, given such premises, BISMARCK must also have foreseen and accepted the inevitable results. The Czar, though he protests against the absorption of Eastern Roumelia by an anti-Russian Bulgaria, would welcome such an increase of territory, once the principality were virtually in his hands. It is obvious, however, that Russia, firmly intrenched far to the south of the Balkans and with all the Balkan passes open to her armies, would possess precisely the coign of vantage and preponderance which she acquired at San Stefano, and from which it was the purpose of the Berlin Congress to dislodge her. Now, it is as evident to-day as it was ten

years ago that, unless equivalent accessions are simultaneously assured to Austria, that power will be materially injured by Russia's ascendancy at Sofia and Philippopolis. She would gradually lose control of other Slav subjects. It is true that the Vienua statesmen, at the time when they concluded their secret bargain with the St. Petersburg Government, seem to have thought Bosnia and the Herzegovina an equivalent for Bulgaria, undervaluing the latter's strategic superiority on account of proximity to Constantinople They have since awakened to the miscalculation, and at present they insist that an Austrian advance to Salonica ought to coincide with Russia's acquisition of the Balkan passes. Even such an extension to the Egean would hardly counter balance the importance to the Czar of the opportunity of seizing Constantinople at will. But it would probably enable Austria to annex Servia, consolidate the southwestern Slavs under her sway, and postpone, at all events, the disintegration of her empire We may add that, when the Austrian dominion had been pushed forward to Salonica Albania, thenceforth cut off from the small remnant of the Sultan's European posses

sions, would naturally fall to Italy. But, Austria having endeavored to cheat the Czar in the matter of Bosnia, whatever bargain is now made through the influence of BISMARCK between the three powers primarily interested in Turkey, will have to be forthwith carried out and made irrevocable. With any such end in view Russia would be well advised in massing so power ful an army on her southwestern border as to render a resort to chicanery upon the part of the Vienna statesmen impracticable. It is just this at which BISMARCK seems to be hinting, when he justifies Russia's military preparations on the ground that she may be expecting another Oriental crisis, and desires to be in readiness to make her rights

respected. In fine, BISMARCK'S position in relation to the Eastern question may apparently be thus defined: He says to Austria. We will not help you to fight for Bulgaria, and if you deem that country of great strategic value, I advise you to bargain with the Czar for an equivalent. On the other hand, he says to Russia, You are quite right to remember the traditional HAPSBURGH duplicity, and to take precautions against being tricked a second time.

# Let the Organs Go for Him!

Mr. HEWITT has made a good many brilliant speeches this winter, especially at public dinners, and the last one has not received all

the attention which it seems to deserve. This speech was delivered before the alumni of the University Medical College, and the passage which is most worthy of analysis and observation is Mr. HEWITT's declaration that "the Mayor does not expect to be a

candidate for Mayor or Governor." While Mr. HEWITT thus renounces before hand the two most important offices of the Empire State, and declines to be a candidate either for Mayor of New York city or fo Governor of this mighty commonwealth, he says nothing about the Presidency. Accordingly, that is a promotion which we are to understand he does not refuse in advance of the nominating convention.

Well, Mr. HEWITT has gained immensely in public estimation since he has been Mayor, and no one can say that he has lost anything at any point; nor can it be affirm ed that, if the Democracy should nominate him for President, he would prove either a weak or a doubtful candidate.

And now let the Mugwumps, the Free Traders, and the CLEVELAND Republicans turn loose their noisy old batteries against Brother HEWITT. He is disorderly; he has ideas of his own; he is dangerous!

### Their Duty to Science.

We sincerely trust the able lot of pedes trians, who are now so intensely engaged in practising their profession, fully understand their responsibility as public performers Theirs is a public trust. The fact that this is entitled a "go-as-you-please" race does not mean that it is to be gone for pleasure but neither is it for money or for victory only. It is for science, and it is to the scientific side of their obligations to the public that we

would call the walkers' attention. What the public most wants to know is how far a man can go in 142 hours. We know already that he can go 610 miles, for we have seen him do it; but his ability to go further is a question of high interest to every one, directly or indirectly affected by the

contemporary knowledge of human powers These remarks are especially intended for the man, if there be such, who on Friday night finds himself within sight of the record and so far affead that he is sure to win

Don't let him ease up. Let him push on and beat the record all he can. One mile over it will give him the extra prize just as well as twenty; but if he can, he should make forty more. Just think of it, 650 miles in six days! Don't measure your strides by money, then. Let your motto be, "One more mile for science, however hopelessly for dollars;" and so, on to the glorious end

Too Much Sand. The Chicago Tribune prints an interview with Judge WALTER Q. GRESHAM, in which he gives his idea of the qualifications of a good Judge, namely, "Modesty, knowledge, discernment, integrity, health, and sand. And by no means the least of these in Judge GRESHAM'S opinion is "sand."

All these qualifications of a good Judge, Gen. Gresham possesses, and they are qualfications of a good President also, although they do not include all the requisites neces sary to make a good President.

In this same interview Judge GRESHAM declines to think, or at least to bother himself, about the Presidency. He says he doesn't want to undergo the agony of stroyed hope or ambition." Moreover, he thinks a Judge should attend to the business of a Judge and not "connive to get something better."

The Republican party will probably be willing to admit that Judge Gresham has the qualifications he imputes to a good Judge, and full qualifications for the Presidency. But it is a question if he has not too "sand" to please the men who will control the next Republican nomination.

#### The One-Term Idea.

To our question as to what authority any newspaper has for assuming that President CLEVELAND would accept a renomination under any circumstances whatever, the New Haven Register replies, "The common sense of the Democratic party."

This does not appear to be a good answer. Is it common sense to suppose that after voluntarily declaring himself in favor of a Constitutional amend ment making the oneterm rule compulsory in the case of all future Presidents, Mr. CLEVELAND could deliberately make an exception in his own favor, and go in for a second term for himself, regardless of his distinctly proclaimed notions of patriotism and duty?

Moreover, do our friends regard such a supposition as complimentary to Mr. CLEVE-LAND? It seems to us to be almost an insult to him.

We do not believe that the President is either the most conceited politician of the century, or the most selfishly ambitious.

Now, look here, esteemed Sun. Whom are you for! RILL CLEVELAND, HEWITT, OF COLEMAN!-Ballimore American.

We are for the candidate of the United Democracy; and prior to the nomination we are for the greatest possible latitude and frankness in discussing the various leaders, whose qualifications as candidates for the Presidency have got to be considered. Do you understand?

Governor HILL will address the Democracy of Brooklyn this evening in their celebration of Mr. TILDEN's birthday.

The Kansas City Journal avers that several of the American diplomats who have gone to Mexico got tipsy on puloue; and this is an assertion without evidence. Pulque is a sourish. milky, fermented drink, unpleasant at the first taste, and as a stimulant rather stronger and less satisfactory than small beer. The beverages of all lands are also to be found in Mexico; and we don't believe any Yankee diplomat has ever really gone too far with the native product. Besides, it must be very nasty to get drunk on pulque.

The renomination of Presidents is not a Democratic practice. - Albany Times.

It is also against Mr. CLEVELAND'S pro nounced principles. Upon that point the President's Democracy is of the purest quality.

The missionary in Africa who has just reported that some of the boys in his young school can repeat by heart "125 questions and answers from the shorter catechism, the Ten Commandments, and most of the beatitudes. would seem to be giving his untutored flock they could well assimilate in the few months they have been under his tuition. It is doubtful if this worthy man will accomplish as much in the long run as other missionaries like those on Lake Tanganyika, who have thought it bes at first to give the natives a little industrial training, and to instil in their minds some desire for better houses and food, instead of he wildering them with exhortations and Bible texts. Before the average pagan acquires a few elementary facts of a civilizing nature it is hardly worth while to make a theologian of him

Look out for Postman Peter Panchon We recall a schedule which he made out for himself some years back for one of these sixday races, and it summed up 640 miles. He

### An Ontspoken Opinion from Indiana.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Why To the Editor of the boards; in a does "Larry" Godkin keep up such a racket over a "weak man" like Blaine? Does he not protest too much? Did we not have an affidavit from the Owl, the Ophidian, and the Jackal that Fellows was a weak man last November? Was not this affidavit of "Larry." Jones, and Judas given to us daily for weeks !

I now believe that Hill can carry New York, and I am sure that Cleveland cannot. This free trade business is just too much for us to shoulder. It strikes at our wage carners, and that is not Democratic. Burchard, too, has endorsed Cleveland, and now comes Henr George! That's too much—the load must be shifted. Nuw Alsany, Ind., Feb. 6.

## Yonkers Comes to the Ald of Ireland,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Knowing your sympathy with the cause of persecuted Ireland, thought it might interest yourself and your readers to know that a few weeks ago a meeting was held in Mon: gomery Hall in this place, and it was resolved to form a society (permanent or otherwise, according to circum-stances), to be named the Anti-Coercion League. Collectors were appointed, and a sum total of \$582.82 collected. The expenses for printing and stationery amounted to \$4.70, leaving a balance of \$578.12 which, through our treasurer, the Rev. Anthony Molloy, has been forwarded to the treasurer of the Irish National League, the Kev. Chas. O'Rellly of Detroit, for transmission to the other side of the water. Let not the readers of THE SUN imagine that this effort is the best we are capable of making We have done better in the past and hope to do better in the near future, and should Tax Sun start a subscription as it did before. I do not think that Yonkers will be found ast in the race for the honor of serving Ireland. YONEERS, Feb. 2.

One Man With Ten Grandparents. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I would ask you if the item under the head of "Sunbeama," it to-day's edition, in regard to the drug clerk in Daven pert. la., la not a common occurrence? My son is as well of, if not better, be having ten'grandparents, viz. two grandfathers, two great grand fathers, and four great grandmothers, two great grand-fathers, and four great grandmothers. BROOKLYN, Feb. 7.

### We Looked, but flaw Not.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I write to inform you that I have just discovered a new comet. almost due south. Please see if I am correct. FER. 6. 9 P. M.

Nebedy Wants More. From the Calvesten Daily News.
For the Presidential nomination the country iled to take a New Yorker, but only one.

New You're Talking Sense. Faom the St. Louis Republican.

Mr. D. B. Hill seems to be losing his grip on
the Democratic Vice-Presidential nomination of 1862.

We List With Pleasure. From the Kansas City Journal THE BUN is not only a great disseminator of THE KANSAS CITY CONFERENCE.

Considering the Methods Proposed for Set-ting the Indian Territory Question. WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Delegates to the number of several hundred from Western States and Territories are to meet this week in Kansas City for the purpose of discussing the opening of Indian Territory. In many ways this question strongly appeals to Congress it is necessary to definitely fix the status of the Oklahoma region. Several years ago longress took steps for purchasing from the Creeks and Seminoles their remaining claims on this tract, consisting only of the right to have it occupied by Indians instead of white settlers, for the title to the Oklahoma lands had been bought of these tribes long ago. Hitherto they have declined to negotiate for this purpose, but the votes in their councils were close, and they may already have changed

were close, and they may arready at their minds.

Then comes the need of settling the future of Cimarron, or No Man's Land, a tract up to two years are occupied only by cowbeys and eattle syndicates, paying no rent to the Government, but now tilled by thousands of settlers who cannot acquire title to their new homes for lack of legislation opening the lands to settlers.

lack of legislation opening the lands to settlement.

The railroad question is equally urgent. One road to-day runs into the heart of Okiahoma. At the second session of the Forty-ninth Congress rights of way through the Indian Territory were given to the Chicago. Kansas and Nebraska, and the Fort Worth and Denver City Railway Companies. The Kansas and Arkansas Valley road aiready runs through the Territory, as do the Southern Kansas Railway and the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fé. Many bills granting rights of way to other roads are pending in the Fiftieth Congress. The question as to opening the Territory for such purposes no longer exists—it is aiready open.

The method of supplying a proper judicial system to the Indian Territory is another subject of importance. On this point the annual report of Commissioner Atkins is emphatic:

For the third time I am compelled to call attention to

report of Commissioner Atkins is emphatic:
For the third time I am compelled to call attention to
the defects in the ninth section of the set of March 3,
1885 (23 Stats, 385), providing for the punishment of
certain crimes committed by Indiana, Congress having
failed to enact the legislation necessary to correct the
same. The Territories should be relieved of the expenses incident to the enforcement of the law, and its
actension to that portion of the Indian Territory not
covered by the laws of the live civilized tribes is of the
greatest importance.
The Commissionary's references to the need

The Commissioner's references to the need of establishing a United States court in the

The Commissioner's references to the need of establishing a United States court in the Territory are supported by a strong array of seats. Some persons object, however, to certain proposed methods of constituting juries for the trial of Indian offences, on the ground that they will certainly work injustice.

Still another matter which must be settled promptly is the method of allotting in severality the lands of tribes in the Indian Territory. It is true that the five civilized tribes are exempt from the operation of the bill for this purpose passed by the last Congress. But there are many tribes to whom it does apply, and it is important to determine how much of the Indian Territory shall remain for the use of Indians alone, since this act expressly allows the tribes to dispose of the surplus after allotment. The severality law alone, therefore, would practically throw open a portion of the Indian Territory, such as the surplus lands of the Cherennes and Arapahoes.

Finally, there are now pending in Congress several bills for giving to the Indian Territory, or to parts of it, a regular government. One of these—that for the creation of a Territory to be called Okiahoma—has just secured favorable action in the House committee.

It will be seen, therefore, how many considerations combine to urge the business which the Kansas City conference has before it. The settling of the status of the Cherokee lands and of the grazing leases is an additional matter of local interest. The influence of the five civilized tribes has been hitherto thrown against the system of severalty allotment, not only for themselves, but for other Indians, and they look suspleiously upon any attempt to relieve the Indian Territory from its present unsatisfactory cendition. But when the necessities just recounted are considered, and when it is added that fewer than 76,000 Indians now occurs more than 41,000,000 acres of land, it must be evident that the present state of things cannot last. Hence the solution of the difficulty suggested by Comm

consideration. This, in general, is as follows:

If certain areas of that Territory are not to be held in
trust by the United States for the future settlement of
friendly Indians, then the policy of removing eastward
the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, the Wichitas and the
Klowas and Comanches, is presented for consideration.
These are the only tribes in the Indian Territory located
west of longitude 38°. The reservation of the Cheyennes
and Arapahoes is simply set aside by Executive order,
and the Indians occupying this tract do not hold it by
the same tenure with which the Indians in other parts
of the Indian Territory possess their reserves.

Below its given an interesting table, showing the whole
number of acres in the Indian Territory east and the
whole number west of longitude 38°, and the distribution of population:
Tetai number of acres in Indian Territory..... 41,192,546

7,616 Number of Indians in Indian Territory east 68,183 of 186 tory...

Number of acres each Indian would have if unoccupied lands east of 1822 were divided equality among Indians now living west of 082.

Number of acres each Indian would have if all lands east of 982 were divided equality among

It is apparent that as there are now only 7.616 In dians west of longitude 88°, if these Indians were place on the 3.685 Me.

Whether this mode of settling the preliminary difficulty will commend itself to Congress does not yet appear; but it would have certain ad-yantages in fixing the future abodes of the Indians so that the process of creating a Terri-torial Government in that region could duly be carried out with less difficulty.

### ALBANY GOSSIP.

If die Capitol were only finished there would be less trouble over a place to move the Assembly to before the celling falls on them. The whole west side of the Capitol is unfinished, without floors or division walls. There is a roof over it, and there are side walls, but that is all. There is not one flooring between the ground and the root. The space is ample enough to shelter the Assembly, but they would have to roost on the roof or sit on the ground. There is not time enough for a floor to be built, and one-quarter of the Capitol is thus wasted. A New York builder has offered to take down the ston

If the stone ceiling is taken down, there will be fou beantiful stone pillars for sale. They are about fifty feet high and almost a yard in diameter, of brownish stone, highly polished, and with beautifully carves

The stone ceiling has been a failure from the start in many respects. A large sum of money was spent in carving lovely figures in the stone, and; when the stene was put in the ceiling it was found that the carvings were too small to be seen from the floor, and the figures were painted in the stone, all the money spentin carving being wasted. The tops of the columns were also carved and the carving might as well have been done on the surface of the moon. Almost as seon as the ceiling was put up it began to bulge and crack. A few tons of maonry were put on the centre arch to keep the keyston from coming up. The added weight made the side walls to bulge, and forced up the side arches. To keep these side arches down a few score chunks of pig iron were stacked up on them, and that with the masonry started the disintegration of the stone. The waits wer not intended for a stone ceiling in the original plans.

But with all the fuss over the ceiling there is not so such danger as might be inferred from the actions of Individual Assemblymen. A party of nine stood on the weak arches on Friday. They stood on the crumbling stone, and on the cruck where you can look down into the ubly. Their total weight was 1,500 pounds, and the arches bore their weight and did not cave in. The stor is crumbling and chipping off, but an arch that will hold up nine men will probably hold itself up a while before

Underneath the Assembly is the State Law Library. and under that are the Ausitor's rooms and quite a num ber of offices, with the Secretary of State's office on the same floor as the State Law Library. The scare over the ceiling has not extended to them, though their ceilings too, would be carried down by the weight of stone t there should be a crash.

Perhaps all this ceiling fuss may be ascribed to the hypnotic power of James William Husted over his fellow Denying a World Story.

### From the Jacksonville News Herald

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5.—The New York World has printed a story in which there is not one lota of truth, giving Col. Lamont as authority for the statement that the Fresident had said to him that he did not intend, and never had intended, going to Jacksonville.

Col. Lamont was seen to day, and he said that he had not spoken to Frank G. Carpenter or any other alleged reporter for the World about the President's proposed trip.

Col. Lamont was emphatic in his denunciation of the paper for printing the lie, and concluded by saying that he was not authorized to speak for the President upon the subject, and that neither he nor any one cles doubted the desire of Mr. Clevisind to go to borida, and his intention to do so if it was within his power at the time named, and public business did not prevent. not prevent.

### The Oregon Pacific Rattroad

From the Portland (Gregon) Daily News. Mr. Frank J. Miller, Superintendent of Bridges for the Oregon Pacific Salirond Company, was in this city resterday on business. He reports that preparations to complete the ununished portion of the road have been fully matured, and that active operations were resumed a few days ago. Mr. Miller's headquarters are at Varuina. THE ADDRONDACK LANDS.

Comments on Seme Pending Bills Disposing of State Property. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: WILL you let a little sunlight on some bills before the Legislature concerning the Adirondacks?

To sell detached parcels of State lands." One acre or one hundred acres of timbere land will absorb and retain just as much moist-ure as it would if attached to other State lands. The cost of its care is no more. The State may eventually become the owner of the intervening land, and that would attach it to other State lands. There is no reason why detached parcels of land should be sold. If this bill should become law it would be surprising how much valuable timbered land owned by the State would be "detached, parcels," " To sell timber on State lands."

If this bill should become law, in a short time all the most valuable timber now owned by the State would disappear. The land would

by the State would disappear. The land would be burned over-for forest fire will follow the lumberman—and become practically worthiess. This bill, in my opinion, is nothing more nor less than an entering wedge inserted by those lumber manufacturers who are determined to have the timber on the State lands by hook or crook. Some of them would prefer to get it by crook if possible.

Speaking of one of these dishonest crooks who has made a regular business of stealing timber from State lands for years, one of our prominent State officials said to me:

"I have never known of Mr. —— lumbering anywhere in the vicinity of a State lot that he did not go on the lot and steal all the timber he could get."

What would such a man do if, under the law, he had any right to cut one stick of timber on State land? He would construe it as a right to cut all the timber the State owned.

If the Commissioners were authorized to sell any timber on State lands there would be the greatest scramble among timber sharks for the valuable timber owned by the State that ever was known. Why should the State sell this timber now? It is steadily increasing in value. The State is in a good condition financially, thanks to a wise and economical Democratic administration. There is only one reason why it should be sold. The lumbermen want it.

This talk about cutting out the "ripe timber" to let the small timber grow is all bosh. The lumbermen take only the best. A log sometimes is in the river three years before it sawed. Where would a ripe tree be then? It would be like a last year's watermelon, it would be too ripe. The lumberman leaves all the "ripe" trees standing in the forest. I once heard a man say "The forest should be pruned as a grapevine is pruned." He was looking after bark to operate thirteen tanneries.

After that, while in company with the Forest Committee before whom this pruning argument had been made, we came out on a high hill overlooking the most God-forsaken looking country that man ever saw. Miles of valley and mountain cover

has been pruned."

Lot the State keep a watchful eye upon its land in the Adirondacks if they would preserve it. "To lease lands for camp purposes not exceeding five acrefor a term of five years."

Why not lease the lands in Central Park? Lease all the best sites about the lake, and let summer residences be built thereon. Of course it would exclude hundreds and thousands of poor people, who crawl out there like worms of the dust to enjoy for an hour the sunshine and flowers and trees, and to get a breath of pure air to prolong life a few more days. But what of that? Is it not the policy of some to legislate for the chosen few rather than the great multitudes?

of that? Is it not the policy of some to legislate for the chosen few rather than the great multitudes?

Why not appoint a "custodian" for every island owned by the State in Lake George? These custodians have expended some money on these islands owned by the State. Why did they do it? And it would be a pity to deprive them of possession now! Possession obtained by questionable methods. Possession of that which they do not own, but is the property of the people. They do not hesitate to order the neonle off from these islands. I understand that one custodian who has expended \$10,000, more or less. on one of these islands, ordered the Forest Commissioners off from his, "my island." and yet, I understand, he is still in possession.

island." and yet, I understand, he is still in possession.

Why lease Nabob A five acres here, where twenty menicould camp and still there be room for more? Let Nabob A camp here, too, and Nabobs B, C, and D take their chance with the rest. There is room for all. Let all be on an equal footing, for the taxpayer is the best and most deserving man of the lot. We want no class legislation to govern our Adirondack park. We have had enough of class legislation for our day. Let this bill be defeated. It is not Democratic. It is wrong.

RIPARIUS, Feb. 6. SETMOUR C, ARMSTRONG,

INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

cept defeat is one of the studies in the billiard roo this city. Men who face severe losses in Wall stree with a smile are some of those who fling down their cue among other business men defeat has led to many pecu liar manifestations of feeling. In one of the billiard parlors the other day a middle-aged man was so angered balls on the floor. Maurice Daly, speaking of the hundreds of evidences of temper within his knowledge, said that he know a man who, after defeat, would deliberate ly bite the leather off the cue. There are many instances where men who have with perfect equanimity lost \$1.000 a night at poker kick up their beels at losing a

Now that the losses, footing up \$280,000, for the first scason at the Metropolitan Opera House have been paid, it will, perhaps, be just to state that part of those losses were sustained by Mr. John B. Schoeffel, Henry R. Abbey's partner. It has all along been generally accepted that Mr Abbey was the only injured one, but when be on Jan, 10, paid over the last installment of the debt, many of Mr. Schoeffel's friends thought it time that Mr. Schoeffel's great burden and responsibility should be recognized. Mr. Schoeffel has modestly protested, but his partner wishes that such recognition be given.

A tall, intellectual-looking young man, who appeared to be troubling his mind about some Greek root or San crit epic, has recently wandered through Wall and other dewn-town streets. He looked like a college proessor, visiting strange scenes. That young man, how fessor, visiting strange scenes. That young man, how-ever, was practically on his own stamping ground, and any bunco steerer who tackled him would have had a hard time of it. He was Henry L. Foster. President of the Oil City Petroleum Exchange, the man who left this town several years ago with letters of introduction, and brains enough back of them to make a fortune.

Old Capt. J. J. Vandergrift, the petroleum luminary, has been one of the interesting figures at the Albemari and other up-town swell resorts. The Captain came er from Pittaburgh to talk petroleum in the daytime and o play old sledge all night. From the days when Capt Vandergrift started as a rustler on a Mississippi steat boat to this hour, when his bank book foots up \$1,500 000, any man, woman, or child capable of playing old sledge and slicking to it all night was and is in a fair way to be mentioned in one of the numerous codicils to the jolly Captain's will. People who read and hear complaints from the pulpit

that New Yorkers do not go to church often enough saw a curious spectacle on Sunday morning in the vestibule of Dr. Paxton's Presbyterian meeting house on West Forty-second street. Every seat in the house was occu pied, while the available standing room near the doors was filed before the services began. Russell Sage and his wife and the other millionaires whose aggregate of wealth makes up the \$600,000,000 at which the congrewealth makes up the \$600,000,000 at which the congre-gation's treasures upon earth are appraised flied in at the doors, and were in their pews in good time. Four or five hundred persons who could get no further than the doors turned away and went elsewhere. Inside the church things were quits as in-teresting. Fifteen or twenty people were ad-mitted to the fold, the young ones dressed in their ordinary clothes. Then Dr. Paxton told his hear-ers what a Buddhist would say to them that morning were he, the Buddhist, in the West Forty-second street pulpit. He would tell them all to become Yogis, motion-less creatures who had once been men and women, and ess creatures who had once been men and women, an were now squat sentient mummies, rapt in unutterable expectation of the hour when they would be merged in the divine essence of Burmah. An agnostic, the Doc tor said, on the other hand, would put two jars on the communion table and tell the congregation to worship them. One jar would contain a fragment of cosmic dust, such a one as had by aggregation and gravity grown to be the world. The other jar would hold some silica, magnesia, potash, and sulphuric acid, the original elements of man, from which he came and to which he must return. Dr. Paxton speaks with a strong Southern accent, saying "heah" for "hera," and "boffled" for "baffled." He is a forci ble looking man, with a shock of iron-gray hair, a shor nose, and a line eye. He preaches about thirty minutes There were several hundred children-an unusual and pretty sight they made, too-in the Rev. E. Walp

ren's church, Forty second street and Madison avenu on Sunday night. They were the brethers and sisters of the twenty little choristers who sang inside the altar rall and of the seventy odd boys and girls who went up to be confirmed by Bishop Potter. It is rarely the children of five and six years are seen at an evening service. The spectacle that attracted them, that of the confirmation of so many little ones of their own flesh and blood, was quite as rare.

There is a queer superstition among the Madison ave nue car drivers that the deecy clouds that pile them-selves up in the sky on bright February mernings, look-ing not unlike drifts of anow, are, in reality, snew banks getting ready to tumble down after nightfall and block the tracks. SOMETHING NEW IN STAGE SCENERY.

A Novel System of Hydraultes for Shifting-Wire Scenery which is Incombustible. From the St. James' Gazette.

The present system of stage scenery,

The present system of stage scenery, with its "wings." "farts." "battens." "cloths." "rakes," and counterpoises, is very cumbrous, in spite of its gorgeous colors and "dazling effects." At the present time every change of scene is produced by the aid of what is known as "elbow grease;" and a hundred or so of "carpenters" set on or drag off by main force the Brocken scene in "Faust." or the grand transformation at Drury Lane.

A German society of asthetic persons, known as the "Asphelia." has recently taken up the subject and worked out a system which deals with scenery and the mechanical changes of scenery in a scientific spirit, More wonderful still, it has persuaded two theatres—the Court Opera House at Buda-Pesth and a smaller theatre at Hal—to give the system a thorough trial, and the two stages have been fitted with the new mechanism. A large model, which shows the whole working of the system, was this week exhibited by the society.

Only hydraulic power is used. The stage manager or chief maclinist is enabled, by a series of small levers and cocks, to change the scenes and raise or depress the stage at his pleasure. Under this system the stage becomes a series of short lengths laid side by side, each supported on a piston working in a cylinder. By many ingenious contrivances each length may be raised separately or with its fellows to any height; and thus the stage itself is made to furnish the necessary terraces, banks, mountains, &c. Even a flight of stairs can be produced by the action of these pumps, which elevate successive portions of the platform one above the other. Scenes rise from the floor under the same pressure. In short, the "power" is everywhere and does everything. Sky borders and footlights are abolished, the whole being lit by a powerful electric light, placed very far forward. There is a permanent hemicycle at the back to represent the sky and horizon, and this is fixed on two unright rollers, on the right and left, and can be changed much as a panorama moves on its course.

this is fixed on two sechanged much as a panorand left, and can be changed much as a panorana moves on its course.

So delicate and complicated an arrangement seems only too likely to get out of order. It would be serious if one of the pistons stuck fast in its chamber, and the "practicable" boards became immovable. Nothing is so ticklish as the movement of a piston raising a weight if the slightest bend or jam ensues. A more serious difficulty, perhaps, is the risk for the actors, supers, &c., when the master mechanician begins to touch his levers. The floors opening, the scenes turning or descend-floors opening, the scenes turning or descendthe actors, supers, &c., when the master mechanician begins to touch his levers. The floors opening, the scenes turning or descending without any friendly "By your leave!" an accident might easily occur. At our great theatres a man always stands by, when the drop scene is descending, to warn off the unwary. Another objection to the new system is that it would cramp and confine the manager and his scene painter. Instead of having a clear stage to work on, they would be compelled to move in certain established grooves, it must be recollected that nearly twenty years ago, when the system for the new French Opera House was being settled, these hydraulic plans were discussed and rejected as too complicated. But even if the German invention proves a failure, it is probable that other attempts will be made to adapt mechanical sclene to the use of the stage. As it is, although the electric light and all kinds of modern improvements are found in front of the curtain, behind it the old rule-of-thumb arrangements continue to exist everywhere.

\*\*From the Engineer\*\* From the Engineer

Wire theatrical scenery is the latest invention in theatrical furniture, and to all appearances seems likely to come into practical application very soon. A painter, Ernst Tepper, set himself to discover a non-combustible material for scenery, and in the end achieved such good results that his invention has net with the approval of those parties who are technically conversant with theatrical requirements of this description, and shortly a sample of the invention will be ready to be put into practical application. The only fabric available appeared to him to be the fine woven wire gauze, such as a sommon for blinds to the lower panes of glass of windows and also used for kitchen and pantry safes. This fabric, which is fireproof, can be woven so fine that scenes can be painted on it glass of windows and also used for kitchen and pantry safes. This fabric, which is fireproof, can be woven so fine that scenes can be painted on it and still be as flexible as linen. A first difficulty, however, presented itself, for when painted upon it was porous and could be seen through, and all the painting in the world would not improve this, as the paint passed through the meshes and only adhered fast to the wire in patches. Tepper set to work, and has now succeeded in making a paste or composition which adheres quite tenaciously to the wires, stops up the pores, and which neither cracks nor peels off, and forms a flexible grounding upon which the painting can be carried out. After this paste was invented it became possible to employ this wire gauze for stage scenery, and in a very few weeks the first practical trials of it on a large scale will be made at the Court Theatre, Munich. Scene painters at Berlin are already in treaty with Tepper, and if the Munich trial turns out satisfactorily, all the German theatres will soon be supplied with the new material for their scenes, as it is only slightly heavier and a little dearer than that now in use.

## SWEPT BY A MIGHTY WAVE.

Two Seamen of the Bark Sigya Left to Per tab in the Barkuess.

The Swedish bark Sigyn, which left Swan The Swedish cark sigyn, which left Swan-sas on Nov. 30 for Galveston, and which arrived in port last Saturday afternoon, made her malden trip across the ocean, being a perfectly new vessel. It appears that the Sigyn experi-enced rather turbulent weather on her passage over, and had the misiortune to lose a couple of

Seamen overboard.

Capt. Elander said: "On the night of Dec. 12 a tremendous sea swept the vessel over her entire length, and I hurrled up on deck. There I found that quite a tragic incident had occurred. It appeared that the second mate, following my instructions, had ordered two seamen out to furl the sith as the wind was increasing. You

it appeared that the second mate, following my instructions, had ordered two seamen out to furl the ilb, as the wind was increasing. No sooner had they finished their task than the big sea struck the vessel. It caught the second mate and swept him from forward to alt before he had time to gather his wits about him. At the same time it swept the two seamen into the ocean as quick as a flash. The man at the wheel hallooed out that a man was overboard. The two seamen had been washed away from the bowsprit just as they were preparing to retrace their steps. They both intered shrill screams for help as they struck the water.

"The man at the wheel heard it and immediately gave the alarm. Life buors and other articles were quickly thrown overboard into the darkness, in the hope that they might be the means of saving the seamen's lives. I then ordered the boats to be lowered to search for the seamen, and had the ship laid to for that purpose. The men, however, manifested considerable reluctance about undertaking such a task, saying it was too hazardous a mission under the circumstances. In fact, they did not care about risking their lives in the boats on such a dark night and when the sea was so rough. I insisted, but they were obdurate, and persistently refused to lower the boats. I then laid the case before one of the men, who was a brother-in-law of one of the lost seamen, but he also refused to risk his life, even when I offered to go along. Seeing that further argument was futile with the men I abandoned the object, and the unfortunate seamen were left to their fate. This occurred in latitude 38° 14', west longitude, and was about 240 miles west of Lisbon, Portugal.

"The names of the two seamen were Hans Hansen, the carpenter, and John Andersen, both of them natives of Sweden. That same day we had bassed four English men-of-war, apparently homeward bound. It was about 10:30 o'clock that night when the men were washed overboard."

#### Conscience and Close Figuring. From the Washington Star.

The Secretary of the Treasury has received a letter dated Fitchburg. Mass, enclosing a 25-cent sliver piece to be placed to the credit of the conscience fund. The letter says: "To whom it may concern: Once upon a time, some thirty years ago, in a spirit of evil mindedness, or perhaps because I could, though even at the time I knew better, I took it upon me to obliterate the cancelling marks of a 5-cent postage stamp and use it again. And, though no mortal may even have been aware of it, I have known it all the while. Under the Mosaic dispensation a retention of one-fifth was deemed requisite to satisfy the claims of justice in the case of trespass. So here: one-fifth of five is one, and one to five makes six. At six per cent, a sum is doubled in about sixteen years, and this then amounted to twelve cents, and double again amounts to twenty-four cents. Now, to give the Government the benefit of the fraction. I enclose twenty-five cents.

The Process of Producing Iron and Steel WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 .- Acting Consul Hornstedt of Moscow has made a report to the De partment of State in regard to an important invention recently patented by a Russian sub ect, and now being successfully worked in tussia. He says:

Rusain. He says:

The invention consists of a method to produce irou and steel direct from the ore. The whole secret of the process is the construction of the fornace, which is simple and inexpensive. It will be difficult for our frommaters to believe that under the new process from ore, after submitting it to the ordinary shelling process is taken direct from the furnace to the rolling mill and turned into sheet iron. Yet such is the case, there being to my certain knowledge three furnaces in this country now in full operation and working with great success. There can be but little doubt that this new invention will create a perfect revolution in the insufficient of charcoal iron. Whether the process can be considered and coalition. Whether the process can be advantage where coke is the full is worked with charact, at the furnaces I refer to a continuity of a coal, I am however, assured that an experiment made with coke was crowned with equal success.

Climbing the Ladder Slowly. Gentleman (to tramp)-Why do you ask for

Can Rest Lasy.

nly a penny, my man ! Most of you people want nickels and dimes!

Tramp-Yes, sir, but I'm a new hand at the business, an' I want to begin right; make it a dime, though, if

-Six months' labor of a Missouri vagrant was sold at auction for 33 cents the other day.

The fashionable rage for turquoises the

year has been a blessing to jewellers who happened a have a stock of the little blue stones. Gens that soid to \$1 each a year ago now fetch from \$12 to \$13. -Ike Smith, who is a young negro of Milleraburg Ky., is a giant indeed. He weights 260 possés, is spare rather than stout, and stands six feet sees inches tail in his shoes, which are the largest in key

-The schoolmaster is abroad in Georgia and is being felt. A Custom House officer at Atken says that for the first time in five years he recently us the United States Court room a jury, every man

which could write his name. -Over \$50,000 worth of potatoes were shipped from Hallfax to the United States during the October, Nureinbor, and December, and large quanties continue to be shipped. Five cargoes of 200 m bushels were recently les bound in Minas Hay.

-They tell of two brothers near Harros org, Ky, who look so much alike that recently one them, who had made a profession of religion, and about to be immersed, and who thought want to get wet, paid the other ten cents to be be Seven years ago a merchant of Elisworth

Me., added by mistake a door mat to the purchase which a lady had made. He didn't know anything about it, but she did, ami after suffering the contrast prickings of conscience for the seven years she sent his the price of the mat -Two Chicago men applied to the Health

-two Chicago inten applied to the Health Commissioner the other day for a license to run a sho for the sale of horse meat. They said that they had an ried on the business in Germany, and knew that hom-meat was good. The Commissioner gave then eneag-agement to believe that he would grant the license. -A woman of fine complexion has admitted —A Wolfman of three complexities fine admitted that it is due to the milk in the conceant, first formulas this: "Take a fresh cocoanut, grate it place it in a clou, and squeeze out the milk. Wash the face and band with the inquid, rubbing a great deal, the more the ter, and wipe with a noft cloth. The effect is wonderful

and instantaneous."

—George W. Cable lectured the other evening in the Boston Young Men's Christian Association hall for the benefit of the association, and books served as admission tickets. The tilea was to secure a library, and any person bringing a book was entitled to hear the lecture. What the public wants to know now is where of a collection of books resulted. -A negro tramp called on a dentist in

Mansfield, Mass., the other day and as sed him to extract apin from the back of his neck. The dentits senths man to a surgeon, who by hard pulling took out abg brass shawl pin. The negro said tink he had thus it into his neck to cure ringworm. The pin had been in the flesh for some time and was much corrolled. -Messrs. Strong and Tavernier, who are described as well-known San Francisco artista went to the Hawanian Islands to do some work for the flower ment. The Administration refused to pay for the work

the artists hadn't money to pay their board bills and when they tried to return home they were not permit to embark, and it is said they are detained there yet. -Lecturers and others whose occupation orces them to travel and sleep in strange beds will to ways carried a big woollen bag, into which, on goingte bed, he got feet first, and then tied the bag around he neck. He said that this was the only way to avoid get ting a fatal chill between the damp sheets of the ave-

rage country hotel.

-The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company has resumed its examinations of color blue-ness among its employees. The investigations consists tests for colorsense, accuracy of sight, range of visies, and ability to read train despatches at different feet Of seventy-five conductors, engineers, and fremener amined, four per cent, were totally color blind, and ten per cent, more deficient in one or more of the tests. -The Congregationalist takes Issue with Cardinal Manning and others who teach that a man may steal to save his life. It rays that many a man has died rather than steal to save his life, and has chosen

death rightly and wisely. "The dire alternative doesnet often occur, but when it does, then God means us to welcome death rather than dishonor." teaching the contrary has done more than almost any thing else to corrupt public morals. -Harry Flaxman, a very skilful and rapid potter of Providence, recently attempted to make an entire tea set of forty-four pieces in seven and a half ninutes. Many spectators watched him. First he turned

four large plates; and then a teapot, sugar bowl, crean jug, and water bowl. The last place left his hands in just eight minutes from the start. The set was of exceent shape and each piece was nearly perfect. -Two brothers in Cambridge, Me., wen —Two brothers in Cambridge, Me., were inveterate checker players, and one of them alwin wanted to bet on each game. The elder had scrupe against gambling, but one morning when the old fost left home to be gone all day he told his brother he'd be; with him. The boys spent the day at the checker board, and when the parents came home the younger son his lost all his pocket money, all his knick-knacks, and six sheep which he had owned. The older brother refined to give back the winnings, and the younger hasn't best anytoms to gamble since.

out twelve cups and saucers; then a dozen plates; then

anxious to gamble since, -In the spring of 1886 George Stowers of East Attleborough, Mass., disappeared having heard that he was suspected of being the murderer of Alice Long, whose body was found in Wrentham. A mas who was in communication with him says that Stowers first went to a little Rhode Island village, where he had came to this city; then went to Canada, and thence to England. He did not feel safe in England, and shipped on a merchantman for the East Indies, from there

sailed to South America, and afterward went to Au-tralia, where he is now. -The Journal of Education has collected & few answers from public school examination papers and here are samples: "Mosquito, a child of white and black parents. Herodotus was a descendant of Herod the Great, and he was King of the Jows. The Aryans spoke the French language. Virgil was a great Ametican author. Diogenes was a great philosopher and a successor to Alexandria the Great, Longfellow wrote Paradise Lost'and Paradise Regained Hawibome wrote 'Moses' from at Old Manse. Plate was the Father of Language, and his language was so perfect that it is said that if Jupiter were to speak he would

-- A Boston correspondent says that at a recent assembly there a man said to Mr. B., "Do yeaknow Miss A., over there?" "Yes, I've met her." is roduce me, will you !" So B went to Miss A. "May introduce my friend, Mr. C." "Certainly." Then he brought up the man. "Miss A., let me present my friend, Mr. C." "But." said the young woman much astonished. "I'm not Miss A." Before B. could recere his self-possession the other man said. Well, it really doesn't matter, you know, for I'm not Mr. C." This was 00 much for Mr. B. He stammered an apology and fied, leaving the two to find out who they really were

-The autobiography of the late Prof. Pond of Bangor Theological Seminary, who died in 1881 at the age of Bi years, was published in 1883, and contained a prayer used by him for many years at night. The prayer was copied into a Sunday school paper and copy of the paper was carried home one. Sunday by one of the little children of John Gibson of thinder his liercad the prayer, began to use it, and became a consistent Christian. He was killed by the failing rains of the Temple Theatre in Philadelphia in 1884, and when the body was recovered, in a pocket of his coat was found the paper containing the prayer, nearly want in parts. Such is the story as told by the congruinmental.

-An Oregon newspaper says that recently when Charles Crocker was making a to it over his Calfornia and Oregon Railroad he received a call at Pat-land from the manager of the Oregonian Railwar. a little natrow gauge formerly under central of a Stude company. Crocker thought the call and application ary until the manager began to sugge derints renaits and then he showed that he was my stilled. "Ar Crocker doesn't understand what this is all about," said a third person. "Oh, yes, he does," said the manager. "He knows he's President of the road " "But I'm -I did." interrupted the railroad monarch, "until the minute." The Oregonian people don't know now whelse to think more of Mr. Crocker or less of their railroad.

-A "prominent" eitizen of Beaufort, S. C. with more obstinacy than self respect, met a tag colore woman on a narrow walk as he was going home to dis ner. One must turn back or step into deep mid. Nelther would give way, but be histood their ground a while and then the man sent for a chair and sat down. The woman sent for a chair and her knitting work, and planted herself in front of the prominent citizen. He may be suffered to the sent of the prominent citizen. restaurant and are heartily, surrounded by a big crowd that had assembled to see the curious contest. After he finished he told the woman that he no longer wanted to sein that direction, but was going tack to his office, and thereupon turned back, followed by the triumphast negrees. Who says the negro doesn't get his rights !

-A Washington correspondent says that the cleverest young forcamer in that city is probably Alexander Greger. Secretary of the Bussian Legation. He is well educated, well informed, quick witted, and genia Though not of noble birth, he has inherited great wealth from his father, who was a successful Rassian contractor, and who died two years ago. The young diplomat is generous with his money and fond of enter taining. None is more thoroughly digiomatic than he even the born diplomate cannot approach him is the art of saying the right thing at the right time. In view of these facts it is not strange that even titled foreigners take a back seat in the presence of Mr. Greger, as far & most young women are concerned. But it is said to his credit that he doesn't first, and never amuses himself with attentions to young married women, likely to be Fashionable Lady (to elevator boy)—Is the slevator quite safe. little boy!

Boy (with an eye on busite)—Yes'm; but if it should trey you wouldn't git bur.